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# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT & ELECTIONS

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**H- 5496 HAS BEEN ADDED**

## NOTICE OF MEETING

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021

**TIME:** 4:00 PM

**PLACE:** House Lounge - State House

## SCHEDULED FOR HEARING AND/OR CONSIDERATION

**House Bill No. [5032](#)**

**BY Newberry**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- OPEN MEETINGS {LC525/1} (Requires that all meetings closed to the public be audio recorded by audio tape or other audio recording device.)

01/15/2021 Introduced, referred to House Judiciary

02/02/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

02/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

02/09/2021 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5506](#)**

(Lieutenant Governor)

**BY Vella-Wilkinson, Azzinaro, Shanley**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING, REUSE AND DISPOSAL OF MATTRESSES {LC803/1} (Requires copies of auditor's documents relative to evaluation and opinion about fees to be filed with the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation and be considered public records pursuant to chapter 2 of title 38, access to public records.)

02/12/2021 Introduced, referred to House Corporations

02/28/2021 Committee transferred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5753](#)**

**BY Tobon, Barros, Edwards, Diaz, Fellela, Casey**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - REGISTRATION OF VOTERS {LC1777/1} (Increases the role of the division of motor vehicles in the voter registration and address verification process, by establishing very specific obligations.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/09/2021 Committee postponed at request of sponsor

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [5755](#)**

**BY Potter, Morales, Henries**

**ENTITLED,** HOUSE RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY URGING RHODE ISLAND'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO REDUCE MILITARY SPENDING AND PRIORITIZE CLIMATE ACTION {LC1987/1}

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5894](#)**

**BY Filippi, Newberry, Fenton-Fung, Speakman, Phillips, Fogarty, Kislak, Knight, Ackerman, Shanley**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS {LC1754/1} (Requires live streaming, over the Internet, of any open meeting of every municipal and state public body, including the executive departments. Video copies of the meeting are required to be published within twenty-four (24) hours.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5895](#)**

**BY Lombardi**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY {LC1701/1} (Enables the Rhode Island public transit authority (RIPTA) to work with the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) to allow commuter rail passes to be used as dual passes for both RIPTA and MBTA.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5896](#)**

**BY Newberry, Filippi, Place, Fenton-Fung**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - VOTER REGISTRATION CANCELLATION {LC1517/1} (Requires the secretary of state to promulgate regulations which identify and cancel the voter registration, of any registrant that changes their residence to outside their city or town, without notifying the proper authorities.)

02/24/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5944](#)**

(Secretary of State)

**BY Ackerman, Kennedy, Amore, Serpa, Noret**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT -- STATE ARCHIVES {LC2127/1} (Clearly defines permanent state records to be retained/ requires preparation of disaster preparedness plan/ allows access to superior court for injunctions/ restraining orders for violations of public records laws.)

02/25/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5998](#)**

(Secretary of State)

**BY Batista**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- PUBLIC RECORDS ADMINISTRATION {LC2132/1} (Updates public records administration act, modifies records control schedule, designates records officer, establishes procedures for retention of records. Provides administrator submit yearly reports, establishes public reporting compliance.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6001](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY McLaughlin**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO DOMESTIC RELATIONS -- SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES {LC2188/1} (Adds the administrator of the supreme court as an individual authorized to perform marriages and would clarify that the current administrators of the superior court, family court, district court, or traffic tribunal are empowered to perform marriages.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Resolution No. [6002](#)**

(Secretary of State)

**BY Kennedy, Abney, McNamara, Azzinaro, Edwards, Solomon, Shanley, Vella-Wilkinson**  
**ENTITLED,** JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO BE KNOWN AS "THE RHODE ISLAND SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL (RI 250TH) COMMISSION"

{LC2131/1} (Creates a 30 member Rhode Island Semiquincentennial Commission to assist in the observance of the Semiquincentennial and report back findings by July 1, 2023, produce a final accounting of funds by October 1, 2026, and expire on January 1, 2027.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6003](#)**

**BY Kazarian, Amore, Fogarty**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS {LC1937/1} (Makes very comprehensive changes to the election laws concerning voter registration, voter rights, mail ballots and early day voting.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6004](#)**

**BY O'Brien, Baginski**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS - MAIL BALLOTS {LC1807/1} (Entitles disabled and military voters to utilize electronically transmitted ballots.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6005](#)**

**BY Batista, Morales, Williams, Knight, Alzate**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS {LC2015/1} (Provides that the reference to the definition of public records include the section designation only and provides for redacted law enforcement disciplinary records.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6006](#)**

**BY Fogarty, Barros, Tanzi, Shallcross Smith, Hull, McEntee, Messier, Donovan**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- OPERATORS' AND CHAUFFEURS' LICENSES {LC1868/1} (Creates pilot program for 33 hr driver ed program offered in an online/virtual format, effective 10/1/21 and sunsets 10/1/23. Creates the Online Driver Education Program Study Commission to determine by 12/31/22 if the pilot program should be permanent.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6007](#)**

**BY Chippendale, Quattrocchi, Place, McLaughlin**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTION S-- MAIL BALLOTS {LC1515/1} (Prohibits the secretary of state from mass mailing mail ballots and requires that the elector request a mail ballot.)

02/26/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6095](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Felix, Williams, Henries, Alzate, Potter, Tanzi, Baginski, Barros, Diaz, Morales**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO COURTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE - SUPREME COURT - COURTS {LC2189/1} (Removes all references to "and Providence Plantations" in statutes relating to the judiciary, in accordance with the constitutional amendment approved by the voters on November 3, 2020.)

03/03/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6096](#)**

(Judiciary)

**BY Noret, Casimiro, Alzate**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES - RESPONSIBILITY OF OWNERS OF RENTAL VEHICLES {LC2187/1} (Provides that violations of chapter 34 of title 31 pertaining to rental vehicles are civil violations subject to the jurisdiction of the Rhode Island traffic tribunal.)

03/03/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [6097](#)**

**BY Henries, Tanzi, Morales, Kazarian**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC RECORDS -- ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS {LC397/1} (Prohibits the disclosure or use of a person's prior name by public officials if the person's name has been legally changed.)

03/03/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**House Bill No. [5496](#)**

**BY Roberts, Chippendale**

**ENTITLED,** AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- VITAL RECORDS {LC922/1} (Requires notification of the name and address of the deceased on a death certificate with the office of secretary of state and the chairperson of the board of canvassers for the purpose of removal from the rolls of registered voters.)

02/11/2021 Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections

03/05/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

03/10/2021 Committee recommended measure be held for further study

03/19/2021 Scheduled for hearing and/or consideration

**The State House remains closed to in-person testimony.**

The meeting will be televised on Capitol Television, which can be seen on Cox Channels 15, and 61, in high definition on Cox Channel 1061, on Full Channel on Channel 15 and on Channel 34 by Verizon subscribers.

It will also be live streamed at <http://rilegislature.gov/CapTV/Pages/default.aspx> .

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**

Written testimony is strongly encouraged and may be submitted via

**HouseStateGovernmentandElections@rilegislature.gov**

**Indicate your name, bill number, and viewpoint (for/against/neither) at top of message.**

**Due to high volume, clerks are not screening this inbox for verbal testimony requests.**

**This inbox is for written testimony only.**

DEADLINE: Written testimony should be submitted no later than three (3) hours prior to the posted meeting time. Every effort will be made to share written testimony submitted before the deadline with committee members prior to the hearing. Testimony received after deadline will be sent to committee members and posted to the website as soon as possible.

**For faster processing, it is recommended that testimony is submitted as a PDF file.**

**Testimony will be posted on the General Assembly website,**

**<http://www.rilegislature.gov/Special/comdoc/Pages/HSGE.aspx> .**

**VERBAL TESTIMONY**

Due to the extremely high volume of requests, and in order to accommodate as many constituents as possible, please take note of the revised procedure for verbal testimony:

**\*DEADLINE: Requests for verbal testimony must be submitted via the link, by 4:00 PM on Tuesday, March 23, 2021.**

For verbal testimony requests, [CLICK HERE](#)

Verbal testimony accepted on any bill scheduled for "Hearing and/or Consideration" only

The committee is unable to designate a specific time that you will be called. In the event you are unavailable when called, witnesses are urged to submit written testimony.

Jill Cataldi

Committee Clerk

222-4435

[HouseStateGovernmentandElections@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseStateGovernmentandElections@rilegislature.gov)

**POSTED: FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021, 3:49 PM**

**LAST REVISED: FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021, 4:23 PM**